# Newsletter – October 2022

Session 2022-2023

Welcome to the October newsletter.

Despite there being a holiday week during October there was no shortage of activities and events taking place across the school through October. As you will see from the contents of this newsletter our pupils and staff were involved in a wide array of things this month.

In this newsletter we will provide information on:

- 1. Staffing updates.
- 2. Pupil leadership teams.
- 3. Parent Council AGM.
- 4. <u>UCAS 2023</u>.
- 5. <u>New school update</u>.
- 6. S4 assessment block.
- 7. Breakfast in Lenzie Academy,
- 8. S1 Open Evening.
- 9. S1 Auchengillan trips.
- 10. <u>Columba 1400 trip to the Isle of Skye</u>.
- 11. <u>AH Geography field trip</u>.
- 12. Business Education trip to the hospitality sector.
- 13. DYW updates.
- 14. PEF updates.
- 15. <u>Up and coming event</u> <u>Senior Phase family learning evening & expressive art exhibition</u>.
- 16. Sporting News
- 17. <u>PTA</u>

# Staffing updates

- Mrs Alston, our new School Support Manager started with us on Monday 3 October and is already making a very positive contribution to the school.
- We welcome back Mrs Palombo to the Modern Languages Department after her maternity leave.
- Ms Ness was successful at interview and will take on the Acting PT Mathematics post whilst Mrs Hutton is working as Year Head for S3.

# Pupil Leadership Teams

After a detailed selection process the following pupils have taken on high profile pupil leadership roles within the school:

### Captaincy team

- School Captains Ramsey M and Saharish N
- House Captains Fraser A (Fleming) Ellie T (Inglis) Robin D (Mackintosh) Oliver S (McKay)
- Vice Captains Alex G, Rachel G, Justin L and Gael S

Our school captains will lead and manage the work of a large group of prefects as they organise a wide array of events and activities. For example, Children in Need in November. They also ensure effective organisation for S6 events such as the dances, the prom, the yearbook and the leavers ceremony. As well as this they rota for S6 regarding attendance at parents meetings; supervision duties at intervals and lunch



### **BGE Council**

- S1 Ziyand S Isla G Alanna K
- S2 Dumebi I Aashna A Stuart W
- S3 Megan L Ruby R

### SP Council

- S4 Elizabeth T Matthew M
- S5 Sana A Safa H Francesca J Arrow M
- S6 School captaincy team

Our pupil councils will meet to discuss wider school issues and to represent their peers in formal meetings about the school. They will raise issues on behalf of others and feedback to their fellow pupils on decisions made. This group will have a primary focus on helping garner pupils views about the design of our new school and what's most important for them when the designs are being formulated.

#### S3 Mentors

Miss Gibbons and Mrs Hutton have recently had the pleasure of selecting this year's S3 mentor cohort. They were overwhelmed with the quality of applicants and are very excited to work with this group of mature and hard-working pupils. Three of those young people want to tell you a little about their motivations and the experience of applying for the mentor program:

#### Zakk T - Reasons for wanting to be a mentor

There are many reasons why I wished to be an S3 mentor. One of the mains reasons was that I wanted to help the primary 7 pupils transition to high school in an easy way so they don't feel overwhelmed or scared. Furthermore, I also decided that I would like to be a mentor because I know that it could help me increase my chances of being successful in my later life. People would know that I've had experience with helping people and taking on more responsibility. I feel that the mentor program will be very helpful for me in later life and that's why I am excited to take part in it this year.

#### Lara McN – The application process

Once I had decided that I would like to become an S3 Mentor it was time to apply. Firstly, I started by completing a form which asked questions about my skills, experience and how I thought I would be a good fit for the role. I had to choose what I thought were important qualities for being a good leader as well as link them to being an S3 Mentor and how they would be used when volunteering with the younger pupils.

After submitting my application form there was a selection morning before the decision would be made. It was an in-person group activity. We were given tasks and the teachers observed how we interacted with one another when doing these activities. I tried my best to demonstrate our school values in my group. I aimed to be outgoing and understanding, whilst still being organised and efficient. My cooperative attitude was spotted; therefore, I received a letter saying I was accepted to become an S3 Mentor. I was glad my efforts were worth it. The group tasks were engaging and I had a great time being a part of the process!

### <u>Grace N – Look forward</u>

After finding out that I had been successful in becoming an S3 mentor, I was delighted as I had worked really hard on my application, and I had tried my best at the selection morning. I am so grateful to be given the opportunity to be an S3 mentor and I am looking forward to what is ahead. I am excited to visit one of the local primary schools and meet some of the P7 pupils who will be transitioning into S1 after the summer. I am looking forward to making them feel at ease about their move to Lenzie Academy by sharing some of my experiences, answering any questions that they might have and being there to guide them once they move into S1. I am also looking forward to working as a team with the other S3 mentors to create a supportive environment for the new S1s.

## Parent Council AGM

Our Parent Council AGM took place on Monday 10 October. An election for new members took place and the next meeting of the council will be on Thursday 1 December. Details related to PC minutes and how to contact the parent council is available on the school website. To reach this go onto the website and click on 'PARENTS INFO'. This will take you to a drop down menu where you will see a tab for the Parent Council. Click on this to access members, agendas, minutes, dates of meetings and so on.

## UCAS 2023

We have processed nine early entry applications this year. This is for pupils who want to study medicine, veterinary medicine, dentistry or who are applying for Oxford and/or Cambridge Universities. Throughout November we will process the remaining applications and there is likely to be about 120 of these. We have set up various workshops related to the UCAS process and there was information put on the S5 and S6 Teams pages about it.

The UCAS process can be a challenging one for pupils as they have to seriously think about their preferred post-school destinations. For some this is straightforward whilst for others it can be more difficult. Our guidance staff support pupils through this process in a variety of ways as do our Skills Development Scotland officers, should pupils want to discuss possible options with them.

## New school update

There is very little to update parents / carers at the moment. The council have put in a LIEP Funding application and the outcome of this should be made known by early in the New Year. There has been progress in deciding on a preferred site but nothing definitive at this time. Hopefully EDC will engage with all stakeholders once a site has been finally decided upon. Whilst we await updates about our new school many of the principal teachers here have visited their counterparts in Boclair Academy to look at the design and functionality of their new school. Earlier this month I visited the school again to walk around with school and council staff. It is an impressive new build with lots of space and light. There are certainly lessons to be learnt for us in terms of what we might want in our school and some features of their build that we would be less inclined to copy. Overall, it has been a very useful exercise and a learning experience for EDC and for staff in Lenzie Academy.

## S4 Assessment Block

Our S4 pupils have undertaken their first assessment block in October and teaching staff are currently reviewing pupil work. It is too early to make any judgements regarding how well the pupils have done as the marking and moderation procedures haven't been finalised, nor has the collation process been completed. There will be a second assessment block in January for S4 pupils and prior to this we will be offering a comprehensive supported study programme to support them prior to the second block of assessments. Our S5/6 pupils will undertake their assessments in November and February.

# Breakfast in Lenzie Academy

I issued a letter to all parents / carers last week explaining that we will open our canteen to facilitate any youngster who wants to have breakfast prior to the start of the school day. To date uptake has been poor but we will continue to remind pupils about this offer and put some posters around the school as a reminder. We will also soon be opening "Café LAtte" in an area created in the social area where senior pupils will be selling various coffees after they've had their Barista training. This will be available to pupils and staff before school at intervals and at lunchtimes. More detail will be provided in due course.

The rest of this newsletter provides updates on 'some' of the activities and events that have been going on across October. As you will see many of our pupils continue to represent the school superbly well on visits, trips, extra-curricular activities and various sporting endeavours.

## S1 Open Evening



On Thursday 13 October the school was once again able to invite parents/carers into the school as part of our S1 Open Evening. This was a truly excellent evening and an exceedingly busy one whereby parents/carers of the current S1 and prospective Lenzie Academy pupils from P7 associated primary schools came into the school to observe our current S1 pupils engaged in work in many departments across the school.

The format of the evening is not presentations by the head teacher or year heads. Parents and pupils tour the school and drop in to whatever subject / department they want to find out more about. Some examples of what was on offer included our pupils made pizzas and smoothies in HFT; they conducted

scientific experiments; they carried out a number of PE activities; they demonstrated their musical talents by showing parents/carers their competences on their musical instruments as part of the S1 Music course; they worked on computer programming; they engaged in literacy and numeracy work and lots more besides. Below are some photographs taken of some of the activities that took place on the evening.





A special thanks to Mr Farquhar for overseeing the organisation of the event and thank you to all teachers, support staff and pupils for their hard work that made the evening such a successful one.





# S1 Day Trip to Auchengillan!!!

We Went To Auchengillan In 4 Trips: Fleming: Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> October Mackintosh: Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October Inglis: Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October McKay: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October

During our time at Auchengillan we completed 3 activities: Archery, Rock Climbing and Raft Building.



We had to use a vast variety of skills to be successful in all of these activities, such as teamwork, communication, listening skills. The house captains, captains and vice captains also came along each day to encourage us and help us gain house points.

The first activity we did was **Climbing.** The wall was 50ft!!! We had to be focused during this as we had to help each other up the wall by pulling the rope they were attached to. The group at the bottom of the wall had to hold a rope to make sure the person climbing was secure and safe. The person who got the highest won



house points for their house. The rope was attached from the bottom of the wall to the top.

The next activity we did was **Archery.** In archery, you had to be very careful around the arrows as they are quite sharp. You had to have a good stance and posture to get a good shot on the target. You also had to be very focused and concentrated while doing this to keep yourself and other people safe. We earned house points for the highest points on the target. There were different rings and each ring had

a different point. White: 1 or 2 Black: 3 or 4 Blue: 5 or 6 Red: 7 or 8 Yellow: 9 or 10







The last activity we did was **Raft Building**: The instructor showed us once how to tie the ropes and secure the wood onto the raft. Then we all got the chance to try it ourselves. Once that was done, we put barrels underneath the raft to make it float. Then we tested it on land to make sure it was secure. After we tested it, the instructors put it in the water and off we went! While we were on the water, you had to cooperate with your team members to get your raft moving. We done head shoulders knees and toes but instead of toes you had to jump on the raft. A few people fell off into the lake,

(which was really cold).

Everyone had a wonderful time on this trip, doing all these fun activities!

By, Airlie HB, 1IG1 And Melissa M, 1IG1. Tuesday 1 November 2022.



## Columba 1400



Our fantastic Columba 1400 group took part in a leadership programme for 5 days in Skye which aims to develop life skills. The group thoroughly enjoyed the experience and identified how important leadership is in everyday life.





## Advanced Higher Geography

From the 30<sup>th</sup> of September to the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October, 11 S6 pupils spent a residential weekend at the Field Studies Council centre on the Great Cumbrae in the Firth of Clyde extending their geographical field work skills. Despite the adventurous weather at the start of the trip, the pupils undertook field studies in river and coastal processes, coastal management in Millport and soil profiles. The expert staff at the centre then assisted them in analysing the data they had collected and all pupils worked hard into the evening to develop their geographical skills.





In addition, 14 other Advanced Higher pupils took a trip to the Campsies the following week to develop their field work skills in river processes by measuring the Nineteentimes Burn. The wet weather didn't dampen their enthusiasm for their work and the pupils equipped themselves well during the day.

## Business Education trip – Cameron House Hotel

On Monday 31 October, 21 S4 Business pupils took an afternoon trip to Loch Lomond to visit Cameron House Hotel. The aim of this trip was to allow us to see the importance of branding, the infinite number of career opportunities within the hospitality industry, as well as gaining insider marketing knowledge of a prestigious hotel brand which we could build upon for our N5 assignments.



We were welcomed at the front of the hotel. They spoke to us about the background of the hotel and the importance of creating a Scottish led experience. We spoke to a variety of departments within the hotel including guest experience and pastry chefs who baked us cookies and sweet treats. Through a variety of talks, we were told who Cameron Houses main competitors were and the



expectations of being a 5 star luxury resort.

We were able to walk around a variety of key areas within the hotel including the reception where everyone's hotel experience starts, to their hotel shop, meeting rooms and Cameron Grill. We asked lots of questions to staff including who the most famous celebrities were that stayed in the hotel. Barack Obama and Leonardo DiCaprio were amongst the two most famous celebrities. We spoke with the outdoors manager food and beverage manager and the marketing manager. We were told about the variety of jobs and responsibilities within their roles.

The marketing manager focused on the 4p's of the hotel as our assignment is based on the marketing mix therefore it was extremely useful. We found out about the most effective methods of distribution, the most desirable products/services on offer, the storytelling behind the brand and the promotion of products/services. Gemma told us that social media is a key driver for conversions and brand awareness. Influencers are huge for the brans as they are story tellers,

they showcase the hotel in immersive. reels and video. She said one influencer, Amy Envoyage gained the hotel 5,000 extra Instagram followers.

Lastly, we were taken to the marina where we took part in team building activities. We got into small teams paddled to buoy in our Katakanus. We were very competitive.

# DYW @ LENZIE ACADEMY

### What's been happening in September and October?





### AG Barr CV Writing workshop and work experience

On 12<sup>th</sup> September, representatives from soft drink company, AG Barr, came in to speak to targeted pupils across S4-6 about the different roles in their company (including marketing, quality assurance and finance) and completed a CV Writing workshop with them. 15 pupils took part altogether, many of whom used the



opportunity to start writing a CV for the first time or adapt their existing ones. Following the workshop, pupils then had the opportunity to use their learned skills to apply for a work experience placement in a department of their choice. Three pupils were interview in mid-October are now waiting to hear back from their chosen department. The pupils who interview, Thomas I (S6), March A-D (S6) and Luis R (S4) all performed brilliantly in the interview and were highly praised by the staff at AG Barr.

## <u>S4 Work Experience Day – Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> October</u>

The day before the October break, 148 S4 pupils took part in a work experience day with a number of employers that they organised by themselves. These pupils gained an important insight into the world of work, expectations in the work place as well as giving them a valuable experience of the industry they are interested in. The remaining pupils attended school in the morning where they took part in a number of work related learning workshops run by staff from the DYW Committee. This included workshops in CV, cover letter and personal statement writing, interview techniques, identifying skills and strengths, making decisions and choosing pathways as well as an interactive digital 'careers in construction' game with Morrison Construction. Pupils were also given work-related tasks on their S4 Teams page to engage in at home. Feedback from staff and pupils delivering the school workshops was that it was a worthwhile experience and many of them made progress on items like CV's and personal statements.

### McLaughlin & Harvey 'Careers in Construction' Programme

One of our employer partners, McLaughlin & Harvey, are helping to run a 4-part 'Careers in Construction' programme from Oct – Dec with targeted pupils across S4-S5. On Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October, 16 pupils attended an introductory talk with reps from the company who talked them through different careers in the industry, popular pathways into the industry and ended with an online quiz to find out which construction career would suit them best. The next part of the programme is to visit Glasgow Kelvin College Springburn campus to have a tour of the different courses they have on offer. The first group went out on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October (see photos below) and the second group will attend on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November. The next two parts will be a visit to a working construction site as well as the Tigers training site in Kirkintilloch.



### S1 My World of Work Registrations

From week commencing 31<sup>st</sup> October, all S1's registered for the Scottish careers website, My World of Work during their Business Education classes. S6 MyWoW ambassadors, staff from the DYW Committee, the schools' careers advisor and their class teacher all assisted in the registration process. To find out more visit <u>https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/</u>

This is an excellent site that will help pupils and parents with subject choices, CV writing, identifying skills, finding jobs and exploring career pathways.

### Scottish Careers Week, 7-11 November 2022

Next week is Scottish Careers Week. There is no better time to book a careers appointment with Rona Kinsman, Lenzie Academy's careers advisor from Skills Development Scotland. Pupils can drop in at lunch time between 1.30-1.50pm or organise an appointment through their Guidance teacher. Careers events and opportunities for S4-6 will be advertised daily through year group Teams, Twitter and the school website.

There is a webinar online event for parents on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November, from 6.30-7.30pm if you would like to find out about the different options young people may consider when they leave secondary school, as well as resources and support available from Skills Development Scotland. You can register here: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/understanding-options-available-after-school-tickets-444495998497

### <u>Reminder</u>

Employer opportunities and work experience are also regularly advertised via the S4, 5 & 6 Teams pages, Twitter, period 2 communications and group call to parents. Please keep an eye out for these and if there is anything your child might be interested in and forward their names to either Ms Byres, Mrs McNab or their Guidance teacher.

# Pupil Equity Funding – Supports for pupils

We continue to work on additional ways in which we can offer supports to pupils. Our school canteen will now offer a daily breakfast service which will be open to all pupils and staff. This is a safe, warm, comfortable space where pupils and staff can gather in the morning and purchase something to eat.

Pupil Equity Funding (PEF) is additional funding from the Scottish Government allocated directly to schools and targeted at closing the attainment gap. This funding aims to ensure that all young people have equal access to educational opportunities. Funding can be used at the discretion of the school to provide targeted support for young people within the Broad General Education (S1-S3) who are living in SIMD areas 1-4. The Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) is a tool the Scottish Government use to identify the geographical areas in Scotland where people are most likely to experience disadvantage across different aspects of their lives including income, employment, health, education, access to services, crime and housing. It is important to note that SIMD ranking is based on geographical postcode and thus identifies deprived areas, not people.

Lenzie Academy has used some of this additional funding to purchase uniform items, stationery/organisational materials and hygiene products. There is a QR code outside of the upper and lower offices in the school. Pupils can scan this code and it will that take them to a Microsoft Form that they can complete if they require any of these materials. Alternatively, pupils can request this support directly from their Guidance Teacher. Materials will then be issued discreetly to pupils where appropriate. Whilst these materials are primarily there for S1-S3 pupils living in SIMD areas 1-4, we appreciate the current economic climate is challenging for many families. Your child should speak to their Guidance Teacher in the first instance if any additional supports are required and we will try to accommodate this where possible. Parents can also make contact with the Guidance teacher to discuss potential supports.

Applications for Free School Meals & School Clothing Grants for academic year 2022-23 are now open. East Dunbartonshire Council has been allocated additional monies from the Scottish Government which means they have been able to double the School Clothing Grant to £300 per eligible secondary school child. This increase is aimed at helping families cope with the current cost of living increase and will be applicable only for the current academic year. Please note, the application form can be completed and submitted at any point throughout the academic year. The application form can be found on the East Dunbartonshire Council website or by clicking the following link:

https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-learning/grants/school-clothing-grant

Please see our school website or the following link to access a support guide which talks you through the application form: <u>http://www.lenzieacademy.e-dunbarton.sch.uk/media/14552/cost-of-the-school-day-fsm-and-clothing-grant-application-support.pdf</u>

Before the end of term, we issued out our Pupil Equity and Financial Supports for Families guide, which included information about where families can access additional financial support. We have included this again in this newsletter as the cost of living crisis continues.

If you'd like more information on PEF or SIMD, please see the relevant section of the school website - <u>http://www.lenzieacademy.e-dunbarton.sch.uk/school-info/pupil-equity/</u> or contact Miss Provan – <u>lprovan@lenzieacademy.e-dunbarton.sch.uk</u>

### **Pupil Equity and Financial Support for Families**

In Lenzie Academy, we are wholly committed to supporting our pupils and the wider school community. This is particularly important right now given the cost of living crisis. As a result of this, many families are experiencing financial hardship for the first time, and financial circumstances are expected to worsen as we approach autumn and winter.

Within the school, we have a range of resource items available to pupils. These items include school uniforms, revision materials and hygiene products. Pupils should complete the Glow form using the QR code outside the upper and lower offices to request any items that are needed, or speak to their Guidance Teacher.

The links below provide information on financial supports available to families that may be of value.

#### The East Dunbartonshire Income Maximisation Service

is available to all East Dunbartonshire residents and provides free confidential advice if you are experiencing any financial worries or hardships

#### East Dunbartonshire Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)

Money Talk Team – If you are experiencing financial worries or hardship, you can get advice from the East Dunbartonshire Money Talk Team to help ensure you are receiving all the money you're entitled to. The service can provide support and advice on:

- Money Advice
- Tax Credits & Benefits
- Consumer Debts
- Housing
- Utilities (Gas, Electricity, Telephone)

Advisers will check whether you are getting as much income as you possibly could and find ways that you could pay out less each month. For further information, call 0141 775 3220.

#### School Clothing Grant and Free School Meals (FSM)

You will find additional support information to help with your application on our school website – Lenzie Academy website - Free School Meals and School Clothing Grant – <u>Support Guide</u>

Pupils eligible for a School Clothing Grant will receive a payment of £150 to help with the cost of uniform.

Pupils eligible for Free School Meals will be given a daily allowance (enough to purchase one full meal at lunchtime).

Applications for the 2022/23 school year should open during July.

#### **Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)**

EMA is a weekly payment of £30 to help support a student in education beyond the school leaving age of 16.

Applications for the 2022/23 school year open at the beginning of July and are online only or alternatively you can contact the EMA section of Shared Services on <u>transport.ema@eastdunbarton.gov.uk</u> or telephone 0141 578 8947

#### **Scottish Child Payment**

Scottish Child Payment is a weekly payment of £20 made to families on low incomes in Scotland who have children under 6 years of age. This can help towards the cost of supporting your family to be spent however you see fit.

#### Scottish Welfare Fund

The Scottish Welfare Fund helps families and people in Scotland who are on low incomes with living costs. Support can be provided in the format of a crisis grant, self-isolation support grant or community care grant. You must be 16 or order and on a low income, or getting certain benefits, to apply for these grants.

#### **Child Disability Payment**

Child Disability Payment provides support for the extra costs that a disabled child might have. You can also apply for Child Disability Payment if the disabled child does not have a diagnosis. This payment will be paid until the child is 18. The amount of the payment can vary dependent on circumstances. The rate of payment made is dependent on the level of need of the child.

#### **Child Winter Heating Assistance**

Child Winter Heating Assistance was introduced by the Scottish Government. It is a payment to help disabled children and young people and their families with increased heating costs over the winter if they are in receipt of a qualifying benefit. It is paid once a year, usually from the end of November onwards. The payment for winter 2022-23 is £214.10.

#### **Cold Weather Payment**

Cold Weather Payments will be made when the temperature in your area is either recorded as, or forecast to be, an average of zero degrees Celsius or below over 7 consecutive days. You must be in receipt of certain benefits to be eligible for a cold weather payment. You'll receive £25 for each 7 day period of very cold weather between 1 November and 31 March.

#### **Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP)**

DHP can help if your rent isn't covered by your Housing Benefit or Universal Credit. DHP awards reflect the individual circumstances of each claimant and the amount of funds available at the time of the application.

#### Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)

ESA is a benefit for adults whose ability to work is limited through ill health or disability. You can apply if you're employed, self-employed or unemployed. ESA awards very dependent on whether the claimant is able to get back into work in the future or not.

#### **Carer's Allowance**

Carer's Allowance is a benefit paid to people who spend at least 35 hours per week caring for someone – the person you care for must be in receipt of certain benefits for you to qualify for entitlement. Carer's Allowance is paid at a rate of £69.70 a week.

#### **Carer's Allowance Supplement**

Carer's Allowance Supplement is an extra payment for people in Scotland who are in receipt of Carer's Allowance at certain times of the year. The next round of payment is £245.70 in December 2022 – you'll be entitled to this payment if you are in receipt of Carer's Allowance on 10 October 2022.

#### Young Carer Grant

Young Carer Grant is available to young people aged 16-18 who have been caring for 1, 2 or 3 people for an average of 16 hours a week for at least the last 3 months. Young Carer Grant is a yearly payment of £326.65.

### **Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods**

Best Start Grant and Best Start Foods are payments that help towards the cost of being pregnant or looking after a child. Best Start Grant is made up of 3 one-off payments: pregnancy and baby payment, early learning payment and school age payment. Best Start Food is a prepaid card that can be used in shops or online to buy healthy foods like milk or fruit.

### Independent Living Fund Scotland Transition

Young people aged 15-25 with a disability or impairment can apply to the Transition Fund for money to help them take part in a new activity or learn a new skill. The most amount of money you can apply for is £4,000.

#### Job Start Payment

Job Start Payments help with the costs of starting a new job. Young people or care leavers who have been out of work and/or in receipt of certain benefits. If your application is successful you'll get £267.65, or a higher payment of £428.25 if you're the main carer of any children.

## The Kitchen at Home

Home Church Scotland (within Riverside Gospel Church on the corner of Lammermoor Road and Redbrae Road, adjacent to Oxgang Primary School) has launched a new project in an attempt to support families through the cost-of-living crisis. Home Church have launch 'The Kitchen at Home', a winter kitchen that opens from 6pm every Saturday that will provide a warm meal to all who come along. There is a suggested £1.50 donation per adult (the donation is not compulsory) and kids eat for free which means a family of 4 can eat for £3 if the donation is affordable. If people cannot afford the donation, they simply have to say 'Dave invited me' or 'Joe invited me' to one of the greeters and they can eat completely free of charge with no questions asked. It is hoped that this community initiative can provide support to families throughout the winter.

# **Expressive Art Exhibition**

**Expressive Art Exhibition at National 5 & Higher**: Published on the school's 'Twitter' page and shown to all timetabled classes in the department, the display of expressive artwork was met with positive comment and helped provide attainment benchmarks as we await the return of folios towards the end of November.

Our next exhibition was published on Monday the 7<sup>th</sup> November and focus on **design folios at Higher** and National 5. The exhibition shall run through to December 2022. – this is the <u>link to view the</u> <u>exhibition</u>

# Senior Phase Family Learning Event

On Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November we will be running a 'Supporting your child through the SQA Examination Process' Event. The purpose of the event is to help you to develop a greater understanding of the ways in which you can support your child through their National Qualification examinations.

Teaching staff will deliver a series of short 15-minute workshops which will provide you with:

- Key subject milestones throughout the 2022-2023 session
- Details of course assessment arrangements
- Essential subject specific knowledge and skills

We hope you find the event informative and leave the school with a greater awareness of how you can support your child through the National Qualifications.



## Sporting News

## Badminton Active Schools Competition:

Our school Badminton club was invited to attend the first of the Active Schools Badminton competition at Douglas Academy on Tuesday the 25<sup>th</sup> October from 4:15-6pm. Nine pupils (S1-2) and one senior pupil helper (S4) came along to this event. There were some pre-match nerves, but Active schools decided to run this first event as a friendly set of matches without taking scores to give all pupils a chance to enjoy the new format and surroundings. They were paired up to play against pupils from Douglas, Bishopbriggs and Kirkintilloch in short ten-minute games to give all a chance on court. Our pupils performed very well and displayed exemplary behaviour in representing Lenzie Academy. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the night and are very much looking forward to the next. A big thanks to Mr Farquhar for driving the St.Ninian's bus that evening and allowing us to attend!

## S1 Football Academy

Following the success of the S2 Football Academy, Mr Imrie has now started a Football Academy for S1 pupils. 18 players arrive every Friday morning at 7:40am and take part in a fun football session. The group have been looking to improve their skill level and elements of fitness required for football. Pupils are then provided with a breakfast in the school canteen. Mr Imrie is organising a friendly football match against Kirkintilloch for these players in the month of November. We were fortunate to secure some funding to provide each player with kit in Lenzie colours!



### Active Girls

To recognise Active Girls Month, the PE Department organised for all S3 girls to visit the Kirkintilloch Leisure Centre. Every pupil was given an induction to use the fitness area and they received a 30 minutes exercise class or badminton lesson. All EDC secondary pupils from November to March now have access to free swims and free use of the fitness area. We hope many of the girls who had their induction will take up this offer!





In addition to this S2 girls had a fantastic opportunity to meet Clare Shine who is an ex professional footballer for Glasgow City FC. Clare presented to all S2 girls about the sacrifices she had to make to become a successful footballer and the issues she suffered due to her mental health. All girls who took part in this presentation were presented with a free season ticket for Glasgow City and some managed to get a picture with Clare.

### **Pupil Sporting Success Stories**

Congratulations to our very talented pupils:

Tony C (S3) who has been selected for Scotland's Table Tennis Team 2022/23.

**Scott C (S3)** has been selected to represent South of Scotland Shinty Team. He was playing against North Scotland at the end of October.

**Finlay H (S4)** who has been chosen to represent Scotland in a football tournament in Ireland. Details of the matches being played can be found here:

#### https://www.scottishfa.co.uk/news/stuart-glennie-names-victory-shield-squad/

**Ash A (S5).** "Over the September long weekend, I had the opportunity to take part in the East Dunbartonshire Young Leadership Dance Course, where I achieved a level 4 dance leader qualification. Seventeen students participated and we had 3 assessments to pass . I developed new skills which put my teamwork, leadership and communication skills to the test. On the first day I didn't know anyone there, but I introduced myself to a group of girls from Bishopbriggs Academy at lunch and they were all very friendly and I felt very included. As the days went on, we all started talking more and more and we still keep in touch. In the mornings learned dances and had dance classes which was probably my favourite part of the course. Each day we learnt a new dance style the variations made it interesting and challenging, especially when it was styles, I wasn't very experienced in. The first assessment was to be able to take a dance fit session, which included a warm-up and game. The second was to take a P3 level class, including a warm-up and choreography. And the third session was to take an S3 session. Thankfully I passed all my assessments but I don't feel that was the most important thing I got out of the course, I made new friends and put myself outside of my comfort zone a lot. I would highly recommend it to anyone who has to opportunity to go, even if you don't want to be a dance leader, it's an amazing time to just be dancing and working with strangers and having loads of fun." **Lucy B (S5)** made her U17 Scotland debut at the end of September against Hungry the team won 5-3 after being 2-0 down. End of October Lucy represented Scotland's national women's team at U17's v Sweden in their final Uefa qualifying match in Portugal.

## **PTA News**

The PTA have organised a Ceilidh to be held in Lenzie Academy on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November. This is an adult only event with no current pupils or those under 18 allowed due to this being a licenced event. Tickets on sale now see flyer for more details. We are also looking for raffle prizes please see the appeal flyer below.



